

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 SAM-01

IO-11 ACDA-10 OC-05 CCO-00 SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 /094 W

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O 281535Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3732

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS PFOR AG MO SS

SUBJECT: SAHARA: ALGERIAN REPORT ON FIGHTING IN SAHARA AND
MAURITANIA

1. ALGERIAN PRESS SERVICE (APS) SUMMARY OF RECENT FIGHTING
IN MAURITANIA AND SAHARA MENTIONS FOLLOWING
SPECIFIC INCIDENTS WHICH WE HAVE NOT REPORTED ELSEWHERE:

A. MOROCCAN CONVOY AMBUSHED: JAN. 23 MOROCCAN
CONVOY WAS AMBUSHED IN HAWZA REGION OF NORTHERN SAHARA.
THIRTY MOROCCAN AUXILIARY FORCES TROOPS KILLED AND ONE
TRUCK DESTROYED BY MINE. FOLLOWING ACTION, TWO
MOROCCAN FOUGA MAGISTER PLANES AND ONE HELICOPTER WHICH
HAD BEEN SENT TO SCENE WERE SHOT DOWN AND THEIR PILOTS KILLED.

B. MOROCCAN AIRCRAFT AT AIN BEN TILY: IN ADDITION
TO F-5 SHOT DOWN AT AIN BEN TILY, MOROCCAN C-130 WAS
HIT AND FORCED TO CRASH LAND ON RETURN TO EL AYOUN.
C-130 WAS TOTAL LOSS. F-5 PILOT, AHMED BOUBAKER, IS
PRISONER.

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2. ACCORDING APS MAURITANIAN AND MOROCCAN LOSSES IN

RECENT FIGHTING IN SAHARA REGION WERE AS FOLLOWS:

A. MAURITANIA: 219 DEAD, 57 PRISONERS AND LARGE
QUANTITY OF ARMS CAPTURED BY POLISARIO.

B. MOROCCO: 78 DEAD, MANY WOUNDED, 2 PILOTS
CAPTURED AND AIRCRAFT MENTIONED ABOVE DESTROYED.LYNE

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